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SENATOR MAURSTAD: Thank you, Mr. President. If Senator Landis would yield to a question, this question would apply to either...

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Landis, Senator Maurstad would like to direct a question to you. Would you respond?

SENATOR LANDIS: Sure.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: This question would apply to either the bill or the amendment. So I think it's appropriate now. And it's just a question of information on...as you've indicated, the assessment is taking funds away from the premium tax that's owed. And so I was wondering if you could provide us, for informational purposes, what the premium taxes are used for.

SENATOR LANDIS: Premium taxes are divided between the state and local political subdivisions. And the premium tax, I think, is divided 50-50, off the top of my head, and it goes to the state General Fund, and it goes to political subdivisions. If it's earmarked for political subdivisions I'm not aware of what that earmarking is. But it's divided between those two bases.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: You don't recall if it goes to schools, specifically to schools?

SENATOR LANDIS: I don't recall. I think it goes to the...I think it goes to the cities and counties.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: Okay.

SENATOR LANDIS: But I'll...but that's a fair question to ask, and I'll try to get you an answer.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: Okay. And my point would be, regardless, is that we do have some state policy in place now where we're taking funds that were at one time being used for one purpose, and we're now using it for the CHIPS purpose. And that's our state policy at the present time, other than any type of a direct tax.